12/17/67

Several days ago Roger Lovin reacted strongly to the name and description of Arcacha when I was questioning him about a Cuban from Miami to whom he had been introduced by Arnesto Rodriguez, Jr. According to Rodriguez, this was not and could not have been Arcacha and it could not have been, as Loving dated it, in late 1963.

I reinterviewed Lovin at his home today, obtained a scrap book from him that I promised you'd return, went over this again with him, and am inclined to agree with his correction of the date to 1964 (which the scrap book confirms) and to his statement, when shown a picture of Arcacha, that he was not the man. The man is identified by Arnesto as Antonio. He is now uncertain of the last name but thinks it begins with a "V".

Shown the Arcacha picture, Lovin said that while the man to whom he had been introduced had a small mustache, his face was much thinner than Arcacha's. He described this man as fine-boned and small. This is all on a tape I'll give Louis in the a.m.

Other Cubans suggest that with all the money he had fleeced, Arcacha would likely have kept his presence in New Orleans quiet.

The mission of Antonio was to obtain munitions and explosives. Arnesto suggested Lovin might locate them. This man, according to Lovin, wrote out his name and address and a description of the packaging ("construction materials") and destination (a construction company) and gave the slip to Lovin. He says he should have this slip but hasn't yet found it. He apparently did not perform for Antonio. He says he hasn't seen him since.

Lovin says he came to New Orleans about September 1963, left for NYC 11/21, was there 11/22, and was arrested in Abington, Va. (Tenn. border) while driving back (no license). His colleague was to continue to N.O. and raise the fine. He couldn't and L served 42 days.

Arnesto, meanwhile, says he was moving his school from accross the street the end of July 1963 and early August, that he did not immediately finish up the back room, and that he agreed to a Lovin proposition that, in return for his fixing it up, L be given the use of the space for a studio. A says that on his unexpected return to the suite on a Sunday he found a naked Lovin cavorting with a naked girl and thereupon terminated the arrangement for the space. He dates this as in November 1964. Lovin's card for this period is in the scrap book.

Lovin does not recognize the name Allen Young. He claims to have known Al Scott for some time prior to the organization of Services Unlimited (see clipping in scrap book he says is from Clint Bolton's column), which might

date that exotic group (which he says never did anything) after the assassination. He agrees with my suggestion it could have preceeded it. He says he is uncertain. If it becomes important, Scott had cards printed for eachof the men. Lovin's is in the scrap book. The printer might be able to date it. Likewise Bolton's column.

Lovin, according to three witnesses who said he so told then (Barbara Reid, Morris Brownlee and Jack Frazier), is quoted as having said that he had been offered a job by a man connected with Ruby to participate in an attempt to assassinate JFK. His version is that Scott said they had been offered a job in Texas thatwouldbe dangerous but could make them a lot of money. ServiceUnlimited was to do anything for a price. One of the othermen was "Pat" Patterson who, L says, is now back in NewOrleans. Another isFrankMay, described as 6'2", dark, thin, just then mustered out of Special Forces. Another was named Louis and was fair haired, another was 5' 8-9", weighed 200 lbs, and was built like a "refrigerator".

Lovinbecame a friend ofThornley's, he now thinksthrough introduction byClint Bolton, for whom he professes great respect. L says he wants to write and it is for this reason he was introduced to Thornley. Thornley was then orking on his "book". L sayschapters were entitled "The First Marine", etc. and that T was then working on "The ThirdMarine", or the third chapter.

Patterson maybe located through the Annex Bar.

Barbara cautions against believing L, saying he is capable of lying while seeming sincere and straightforward.

His uninspired "admissions" to me are of a st ange nature if they are fictitious. He says he is heavily sex oriented, that he chased women, that on his discharge from the Navy he lived by "selling" them his "butt". He says he go an undesireabledischarge as a consequence of the second of two homosexual acts (with aman whose name is on thetape but now escapes me, a man of some notoriety). These appear to have been hisonly such adventures. His arrangement with his wife of three years (Sandra, who is tall) isthat either can sleep around. He says she does, without objection from him, but she does not. He claimsto have "reformed" since marriage, that he lived withone girl until his marriage and thenceforth has had nothing to do with other women. He also says he is on bad terms with his mother because once she accidentally intruded on his love-making with his wife, expressed the sentiment that this was "cute", and he therefore "threw her out". His family, he says, doesnot approve of him. He phoned his Mother (Slidell) to seeif she recalled when he came to N.O. His sister Annie answered the phone. L put his hand overthe mouthpiece and volunteered that she had a 46" bust. It would seem that he does have a rather heavysexual orientation.

Heseems to be new in the clothing business, specializing in the inexpensivemanufacture of skimpy clothes for both men and women and a special

shirt for men (pictures on his wall at 918 Kerlerec The house is scantily and cheaply furnished, incompletely. Hesays he has just begun to get furniture, that they have none. His wifeis tobequalifiedto teach by next year (English and Spanish). He has organi ed a number of bands and blames Walter Kraft (for whom he bought a banjo) with breaking up the last one after 5 months. He says Krafthas an unusual tenor (and lives off of women). I took Kraft to dinner last Sunday, hoping to get a run-down on Lovin (uneuccessfullly-he said he'd first want Lovin's permission).Kraft claims to be a reformed beatnik (and he was neat and clean, conservatively dressed), as Lovin claims to be a reformed reprobate. Lovin is 27. He says he is slightly ahwad of schedule in his ambition to have $750,000 and retired by age 30 (his plansfor his beginningmust have beenmodest!).

In thefirst interview, taped with permission in the yard of the Coffee Pot on St. Peter St., he acknowledged hismembership in the Discordians. Today he gavemehisfileonthat outfit. I promised its return.

I didn't recognizeh im today. He hadjust awakened (noon),his face was a little puffy, and he is now wearing large, round, "gold"-framed glasses. He was quite neat and not loudly dressed in the first meeting. He talks with seeming freedom and without restraint about himself. I am inclined to think the story was reported accurately but that heenlarged on it after the assassination suggested the romanticizing.